

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 40072-0016

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| Applicant(s): | Hidemi ISHIKAWA et al. | Confirmation No. 5843 |
| Appl. No.: | 10/528,099 | Examiner: Unassigned |
| Filing Date: | March 16, 2005 | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Title: | COMPOSITION FOR USE AS SANITARY EARTHENWARE MATERIAL, METHOD FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SANITARY EARTHENWARE USING SAME COMPOSITION | |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of the listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

RELEVANCE

The foregoing documents came to the Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding Taiwan patent application. A copy of the Taiwan Patent Office's Office Action is attached.

An English language translation of Documents B01-B04 are not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). Applicant has attached an English abstract of Documents B01-B04.

TIMING/FEE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of the first official action, therefore, no fee is required in connection with its filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 7, 2006

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | Complete if Known | |
| | | Application Number | 10/528,099 |
| | | Filing Date | March 16, 2005 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Hidemi ISHIKAWA et al. |
| | | Group Art Unit | Unassigned |
| | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| | | Attorney Docket Number | 40072-0016 |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |

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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>) | | | | |
| | B01 | JP 04-094906 | 3/27/1992 | Inax Corp. | | |
| | B02 | JP 04-331758 | 11/19/1992 | Murata MFG Co. Ltd. | | |
| | B03 | JP 04-292903 | 10/16/1992 | NGK Insulators Ltd. | | |
| | B04 | JP 4-292903 | 10/16/1992 | | | |
| | | ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /CI/ | | | | |
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|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | /Carlos Lopez/ | Date Considered | 09/10/2008 |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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